



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/749,281 Confirmation No.
Applicant : Gene R. Anderson et al.
Filed: December 26, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2827
Examiner : Norris, Jeremy C.

Docket No. : 1613370-0017
Customer No. : 007470

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Melissa McCool
Name

December 19, 2003
Date

NINTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure imposed by 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 to inform the Patent Office of all references coming to the attention of Applicants or attorneys or agents for Applicants which are or may be material to the examination of the subject application, Attorneys for Applicants hereby invite the Examiner's attention to the reference(s) listed on the accompanying PTO Form SB/08A and SB/08B.

Applicants submit the present information disclosure statement under 37 CFR 1.97(b)(4). The document(s) identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A include documents which are cited in the International Search Report International Application No. PCT/US01/43354 ("the PCT application") of which the above-referenced application is

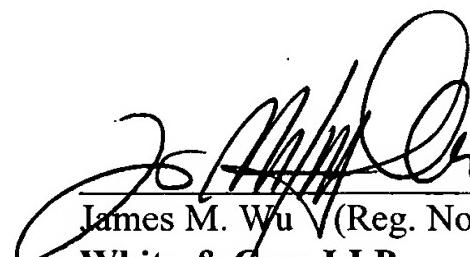
related to U.S. patent application 09/749,282. A copy of the International Search Report ("ISR") is included with this communication.

This submission is understood to complement the results of the Examiner's own independent search. The submission should not be construed as a representation that a search was made, or that the cited items are inclusive of all the relevant and material citations that may be available publicly.

Copies of the cited reference(s) are enclosed. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the attached references and that they be made of record in the file history of the above-captioned application.

Applicants believe that there is no fee due in connection with the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should a fee be required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge White & Case LLP Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: December 19, 2003



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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0651-0031

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/749,281
Filing Date	December 22, 2000
First Named Inventor	Gene R. Anderson
Art Unit	2827
Examiner Name	Norris, Jeremy C.
Attorney Docket Number	1613370 - 0017

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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	09/749,281
		Filing Date	December 22, 2000
		First Named Inventor	Gene R. Anderson
		Art Unit	2827
		Examiner Name	Norris, Jeremy C.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	1613370-0017

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC) <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify below): <input type="checkbox"/> Int'l. Search Report (copy); 1 cited reference; Return Postcard
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	James M. Wu (Reg. No. 45,241) White & Case LLP, 1155 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036
Signature	
Date	December 19, 2003

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Typed or printed name	Melissa McCool		
Signature		Date	December 19, 2003

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